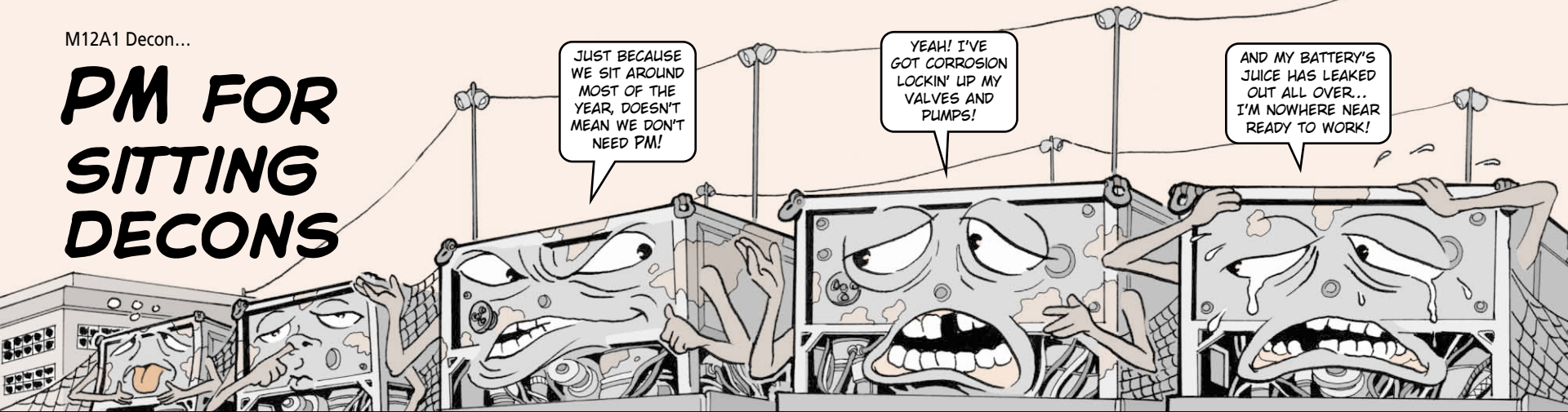


PM FOR SITTING DECONS

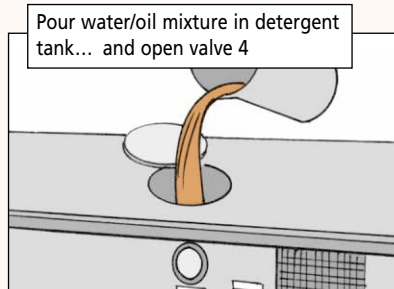
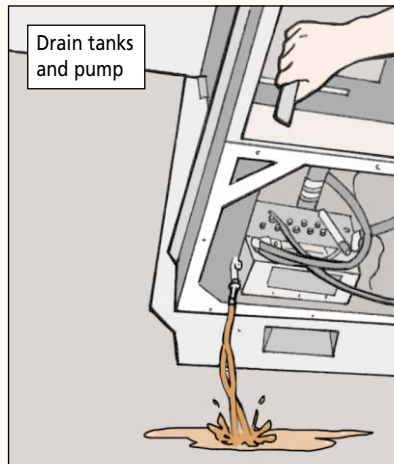


Most M12A1 decons sit for much of the year. But that doesn't mean they don't need PM. Without PM, corrosion locks up their valves and pump, the battery's juice leaks out and you're up the decon creek when it's time to operate.

To prepare your M12A1 for a long period of sitting, first drain all the water. Park it on level ground and drain the main tank, prime detergent tank and pump. If water's left in the tanks and pump, corrosion starts and your M12A1 soon leaks.

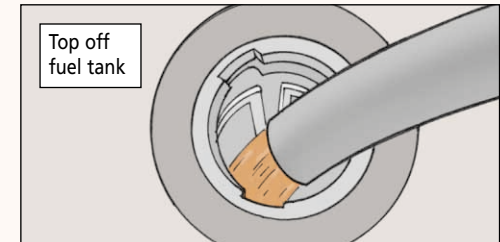
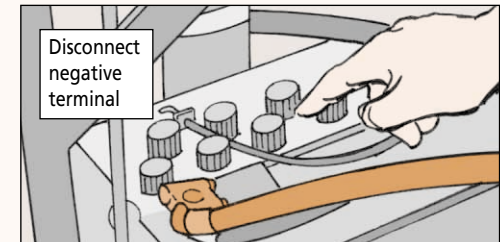
It's almost impossible to drain all the water and even a cup of water can cause corrosion and damage the pump.

The answer is general purpose lubricating oil (PL-S), NSN 9150-00-231-6689. If your decon will be sitting for a while, mix 3 pints of PL-S with 3 gallons of water. Pour the mixture into the detergent tank and open Valve 4. Run the pump 30 seconds, then drain the pump. Close Valve 4, but leave the pump drain valve open. Now the pump won't corrode.



To save the battery while the M12A1's sitting, disconnect the ground cable from the negative battery terminal to keep the battery from draining. Better yet, remove the battery and store it inside on a wood pallet.

Top off the fuel tank. That keeps condensation from building up in the tank and starting corrosion. Then, before you start the M12A1 for the first time, drain the fuel sediment bowl so that water from condensation doesn't get in the carburetor.



Before Operating

When you're ready to operate your M12A1 again, eyeball the bolts for the motor mount, the starter, and the alternator for shiny or rusty areas that mean loose bolts. The M12A1 shakes like crazy during operation and causes bolts to work loose and maybe out. Tighten loose bolts.

Last but not least, check DD Form 314 or ULLS DA Form 5986-E to see when your M12A1 was last lubed. If it's been more than 3 months, get out LO 3-4230-209-10 and go to work. Be sure to catch the two grease fittings for the pump bearings. If they're forgotten, the pump can lock up. Make the job easier by using the flexible grease gun adapter that's part of your BII.

